

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the specification to correct typographical errors. Claims 3, 5-8, 10-13, 16-18, 20, 22-25 and 27-30 have been amended to delete multiple dependencies and to correct typographical errors. The revision to the paragraph beginning on page 8 of the specification is apparent in view of the discussion of the 10^7 fold dilution at page 9, line 22, considered with the indication at page 10, line 1 that a series of 10-fold dilutions runs from 10^0 fold to 10^{10} fold. The revisions to the paragraphs on pages 15-16 are reflected by the respective figures.

A new abstract is provided on a separate page as required by U.S. practice.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Douglas P. Mueller (Reg. 30,300), at (612) 371.5237



Date: June 28, 2004

DPM:klg

Respectfully submitted,

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By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. Mueller", written over a horizontal line.

Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300